

TRADEWINDS

California Department of Food and Agriculture
Agricultural Export Program

RECENT FAS/USDA REPORTS

The following reports of interest were released during the month of June. Reports are available online at www.fas.usda.gov.

Croatia: Market Update

China: Food Processing Report

Guatemala: Country Report

EXHIBITOR OPTIONS AT USA PAVILION AT FRUIT LOGISTICA 2005

California agricultural exporters have several participation options at Fruit Logistica in Berlin, Germany on February 10-12, 2005. Choices include exhibitor booths, work stations, or pavilion space.

Exporters also have the option of a product display. Eligible companies may be reimbursed for up to 50% of exhibition-related expenses.

Applications are due September 1, 2004.

Contact Sharon Cook at (202)720-3425 or Sharon.Cook@usda.gov for further details.

TRADE MISSION TO TAIWAN

Exporters of California seafood are invited to participate in a U.S. Seafood Mission to Taiwan on August 31-September 4, 2004. The event will feature a tabletop showcase, one-on-one buyer meetings, and tours of local seafood processing facilities.

Please contact Jon Sonen at (509) 457-7137 or jsonen@agr.wa.gov for more information.

UPCOMING TRADE EVENTS

*Supported by the California
Department of Food and
Agriculture*

FOOD & HOTEL VIETNAM 2004
December 2-4, 2004, Ho Chi Minh
City, Vietnam

SIRHA 2005
January 22-26, 2005, Lyon, France

For more information, please
e-mail the Agricultural Export
Program: aepinfo@cdfa.ca.gov.

VALUE-ADDED PRODUCER GRANTS: FUNDING ANNOUNCEMENT

The Value-Added Producer Grant (VAPG) Program is available to independent producers, agricultural producer groups, farmer or rancher cooperatives, and majority-controlled producer business ventures.

The VAPG Program may be used to fund one of the following two activities: (1) planning activities needed to establish a viable value-added marketing opportunity for an agricultural product (e.g. conduct a feasibility study, develop a business plan, develop a marketing plan); or (2) acquire working capital to operate a value-added business venture that will allow producers to better compete in domestic and international markets.

Applications must be received on or before 4 p.m. Eastern time on July 30, 2004. For details, visit www.rurdev.usda.gov/rbs/coops/vadg.htm.

Source: USDA

COMMENT PERIOD ON MEXICAN HASS AVOCADO IMPORT PROGRAM

The USDA Animal Plant Health Inspection Service is proposing to amend regulations to allow distribution of fresh Hass avocados grown in approved municipalities in Michoacan, Mexico to all 50 U.S. states.

The proposed rule (May 24, Federal Register) would also allow avocados to be imported year-round.

Comments on the proposed rule must be received on or before July 23, 2004. Further information can be found at www.aphis.usda.gov or by contacting APHIS at (310) 734-6799.

JAPANESE MAXIMUM RESIDUE LIMITS REGULATIONS

The June 2004 USDA / Foreign Agricultural Service GAIN report containing information on the maximum residue limits for pesticides on crops and foods is available online at www.fas.usda.gov/gainfiles/200406/146106575.pdf.

Source: USDA/FAS GAIN Report JA4056

USDA TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM TO BEGIN IN AUGUST

U.S. agricultural producers seeking aid under the Trade Adjustment Assistance for Farmers (TAA) program for fiscal year 2005 may send their requests to the Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) starting August 16, 2004 through January 31, 2005.

The TAA program offers assistance to groups of U.S. producers who can demonstrate, using federal guidelines, that they have recently suffered from low prices due to increasing imports.

FAS must receive the petition by 5 p.m., EST, January 31, 2005. Petitions can be faxed to (202) 720-0876, e-mailed to trade.adjustment@fas.usda.gov, or mailed to the USDA, Foreign Agricultural Service, Trade Adjustment Assistance Office, 1400 Independence Avenue SW, Stop 1021, Washington, DC 20250-1021. Faxes or e-mails are preferred.

The Federal Register notice of the petition is available online at www.fas.usda.gov/info/fr/notices/html. The TAA petition form is located on the web at www.fas.usda.gov/itp/taa/resource.htm. For further information or questions, please contact the TAA coordinator at (202) 720-2916.

Source: USDA Press Release

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ORGANIC AND NATURAL PRODUCTS IN CANADA

The Western U.S. Agricultural Trade Association (WUSATA), is coordinating participation in the U.S. Organic and Natural Trade Initiative Booth at the CHFA (Canadian Health Food Association) Expo East Show. This is a great opportunity for California's food producers and companies to participate in Canada's growing organic natural and health food market.

The deadline for registration and payment is August 16, 2004. Contact Sarah Goan, Montana Dept. of Agriculture, at (406) 444-2402 or sgoan@state.mt.us for details.

EXPORT OPPORTUNITIES

- An Argentine importer seeks suppliers of used wooden wine barrels

Please contact AEP at aepinfo@cdfa.ca.gov for details.



California Department of Food and Agriculture

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Undersecretary, Chuck Ahlem

Agricultural Export Program

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